# **CALFED Management Team**

USBR - Roger Patterson (Alt. - Kirk Rodgers)
USFWS - Wayne White (Alt. - Joel Medlin)
NMFS - Jim Lecky (Alt. - Gary Stern)
EPA - Tom Hagler, Patrick Wright (Alt. - Palma Risler)
Corp. of Engineers - Walter Yep
CA Resources Agency - Mike Mantell
CA Fish and Game - Greg Zlotnick
DWR - Bob Potter
SWRCB - Walt Pettit
Food & Agr. - Mike Chrisman



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Date: August 22, 1996

To: CALFED Management Team (see attached list)

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Upcoming CALFED Management Team Meeting

The CALFED Management Team will meet on Tuesday, August 27, (NOTE: Changed from August 28) from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in Room 1142 of the Resources Building. Attached is a draft agenda for this meeting (Attachment 1).

A more detailed description of the agenda items and attachments follows:

# A. Phase I Letter of Support

The draft Phase I Letter of Support has been circulated over the last several weeks and substantial comments have been incorporated. The letter is currently being circulated for signature among the CALFED agencies. The intent is to have the letter signed and ready for distribution at the press event on September 3. Attachment 2 is a copy of the letter in its final form.

# 1) September 3 Press Event

A press event will be held on Tuesday, September 3, beginning at 10:00 am, on the dock of Delta King River Boat, 1000 Front Street, Old Sacramento. The purpose of the event is to inform the press about the three CALFED Bay-Delta Program alternatives to be analyzed in Phase II. Participants invited to speak include Doug Wheeler, Resources Agency, Bob Perciaseppe, EPA, the BDAC Chair and Vice-Chair, and various stakeholders from the agricultural, environmental, fisheries, and urban water user communities.

**CALFED Agencies** 

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service

### B. Phase II Process

### 1) Schedule and Milestones

Lester Snow will give an overview of the Phase II process. He will discuss the overall goal of Phase II, the need for agency participation, the anticipated schedule, and will summarize the major milestones.

# 2) Agency Resources for Component Refinement

The purpose of the Component Refinement process is to refine preliminary Phase II alternatives for EIR/S analysis and selection of the preferred alternative. Initial refinement to begin impact analysis, is expected to be complete by November 1996. Agency support and resources are critical to meeting this schedule and are especially needed for development of ecosystem restoration program and modeling assumptions for the storage and conveyance component. We will discuss how best to utilize existing agency resources to assist in this effort.

#### C. Restoration Coordination

### 1) Habitat Coordinator Position

Cindy Darling was recently selected for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Habitat Coordinator position. She will begin her duties as Habitat Coordinator with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program on September 3.

# 2) Category III 1996 Funding List

Cindy Darling will provide an update on the activities related to Category III.

### 3) Ecosystem Roundtable

The Ecosystem Roundtable has been established as a subcommittee of BDAC to ensure the effective coordination of state and federal ecosystem restoration activities with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and to integrate the Category III efforts. A list of potential members was prepared and submitted to BDAC chair Michael Madigan. Membership will be approved by the Chair and an invitation will be sent to each of the members asking them to participate. It is anticipated that the Ecosystem Roundtable will be in place after the September 20 BDAC meeting. Cindy Darling will give more detail on this.

### D. Other Issues

# 1) Update on Fish Screening Efforts (Pete Chadwick)

An interagency team was established to analyze issues and make recommendations regarding fish screens. This issue was identified by both agency and stakeholder representatives as being critical in the development and evaluation of the Alternatives.

### 2) Baseline Issues

A team has been developed to begin framing and examining the issues related to developing a baseline. The CALFED Management Team will be provided with a status report of group activities.

### 3) Phase II Decision Process

Mary Scoonover will summarize and discuss the Phase II decision process and various options for the form of that decision.

### 4) Purpose and Need

CALFED has been working cooperatively with staff from USACE and the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a Purpose and Need statement for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program which satisfies both the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water, Act. Consensus over the Purpose and Need statement is the first in a series of important milestones for the preparation of the Programmatic EIR/EIS, and the successful completion of Phase II of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

CALFED has prepared a Draft Purpose and Need statement (Attachment 3) which we believe meets the statutory requirements for NEPA and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. However, USACE has indicated that the linkage of the four main objective areas: ecosystem quality, water supply, water quality and system vulnerability, fundamental to CALFED, appears to be inconsistent with current USACE policy. Additionally, both EPA and USACE have expressed concerns over the level of detail presented in the current version of the Purpose and Need statement as being too limiting to the range of alternatives which could potentially satisfy the basic project purpose. CALFED is continuing to meet and work with these agencies to demonstrate the unique content and magnitude of the CALFED Program at a national level, and resolve these concerns relative to the Purpose and Need statement.